

We have been presented with an opportunity at a time when many only see challenges – and with your assistance, we will capitalize on it!

The Nature of a Challenge

uring your most recent job interview, whether it was last week or 20 years ago, you were probably asked to address a challenge that you have faced and the eventual outcome. I think that question is borne out of human nature because we often view the word "challenge" as being negative. It is associated with words like obstacle, difficulty, objection or fight. If you have watched the news lately, negativity sells. I just wish that one time, that interviewer would ask about an opportunity that was presented to you and what you did capitalize on it.

Avila has just been presented with that opportunity. We received word in January from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation that we have been approved for a \$900,000 "challenge" grant. The nature of a challenge grant from the Mabee Foundation requires the successful applicant to raise about four times the size of the grant in private funds before the money will be released. When we applied, we were slightly over halfway to our goal of \$3,653,000 and hopeful that we could close the remaining gap in less than the 12 months allowed.

Needless to say, it was but a brief celebration for the advancement team because we know there is much still to be done. When, not if, we are successful, this will be the second largest check the school will have received in its 93-year history. It also will help fund four key projects (highlighted later in this issue) that will greatly improve our facilities and how we educate and serve our students.

We have been successful with challenge grants from the Mabee Foundation in the past. In fact, the largest check Avila ever received was \$1,000,000 from the Foundation in 2006. The key to such successes always has been the investments our alumni and friends have been willing to make in Avila and the students it serves.

Your commitment to helping us close that gap will truly make a difference in our students' experiences for generations to come. We have been presented with an opportunity at a time when many only see challenges – and with your assistance, we will capitalize on it!

Carpe diem!

Greg Reichert

Vice President for Advancement

Dreg Veribert

For more information on the 2010 Mabee Foundation Challenge, please visit the Web site at www.avila.edu/mabeechallenge

Accent

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Students, staff conduct neurofeedback study

Avila research team examines whether individuals can "train their brains" to fall into more relaxed states of being

ver wonder if you could reach that perfect, ideal state of mind all the time? A recent research project at Avila may help to find out.

Dr. Marcia Pasqualini, chair of Avila's psychology department, received funding through the Bial Foundation of Portugal to take part in an international study of neurofeedback. Dr. Pasqualini and a team of 12 student researchers recruited volunteers between the ages of 18 and 49 to participate in a 10-session training program.

Neurofeedback (also called EEG biofeedback) involves recording and amplifying the electrical signals of the brain in order to help people identify and change their mental state. In conjunction with researchers in England, Denmark and Russia, Dr. Pasqualini and her team are investigating whether healthy people can enhance their thinking abilities and improve their moods through neurofeedback.

"In essence, you're getting rewarded when your brainwaves show a particular pattern that has been associated with a state of relaxed focus," Dr. Pasqualini explained. "Different brainwave patterns tend to be associated with sleep, drowsiness, rumination and other mental states."

The study included pre-testing, ten training sessions, post-testing and – following a month wait – delayed post-testing.

"Neurofeedback has been used clinically quite a bit, but the clinical use has outpaced research that demonstrates its effectiveness," Dr. Pasqualini continued. "There's a lot we don't know about 'teaching' people to adjust their brain patterns. We want to determine if people can learn from neurofeedback to change their brain patterns, and we'll see if certain types of training are better than others, too."

"The ultimate goal is for people to be able to identify how a relaxed state feels so that they can eventually put themselves in that state naturally, without feedback," Dr. Pasqualini concluded.

The original equipment used in this research was funded through a grant secured by Dr. Maria Hunt, director of Avila's Mindfulness Program, through the Menorah Legacy Foundation. For more information on Avila's psychology department, including undergraduate research opportunities, please visit www.avila.edu/psychology.

Avila students Chrissy Arasmith and Lisa Burks practice neurofeedback techniques as part of an international study.



Avila represented at annual SOA vigil near Atlanta

embers from the Avila University community joined approximately 13,000 peaceful protestors November 20-22, 2009, at the gates of Fort Benning, Ga., to support efforts to close down the School of the Americas (SOA), a combat training school for Latin American soldiers located at the fort.

Throughout its nearly 60-year history, SOA has trained more than 60,000 Latin American soldiers in counterinsurgency techniques, sniper training, psychological warfare and interrogation tactics. Many SOA graduates have used their skills to wage war against their own people in various Central, South and Latin American countries.

This year, six students (including members of Avila's Veterans Service Organization, or VSO, and peace studies students) and one staff member participated in the three-day event. It commemorated the 20th anniversary of the 1989 SOA graduate-led Jesuit massacre in San Salvador, along with thousands of other victims of SOA violence over the years.

"This year's goal for the Avila contingency was to have more students witness the process," said Larry Hayes, Avila student and VSO president. "We interacted with the active military personnel stationed at the base and talked with them about the United States' role in Central, South and Latin America. People study about peace, but do they understand what it takes to truly have peace within our society?"

Hayes, who also attended the 2008 SOA vigil, believes the protestors' sentiments need to be heard not only during the vigil but year-round, and he hopes the number of Avila students who attend next year's vigil will increase.

"Avila students serve the community in many ways, and I believe that peacemakers can serve the overall community by looking at all points of view," Hayes commented. "One conversation between the Avila students and Fort Benning personnel raised the question of protecting civilians within the U.S. The question was simple: If force is never necessary, why not do away with our police forces across the country? It made us stop and think about things."

"From a military perspective, it's something you always think about," Hayes added. "We were able to see how civilian protestors interacted with the military in a peaceful demonstration. Our military has a reason to be in Central, South and Latin America, but our country needs to take a closer look at who is going to the School of the Americas and what they are being taught there. It's an important topic, and it's about standing up for what is right."

For more information, visit the SOA Watch Web site at www.soaw.org.

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Avila community donates 250 gifts to Toys for Tots

Campus-wide campaign helps faculty, staff and students celebrate Christmas with others

vila University faculty, staff and students collected 250 new toys in a campus-wide campaign to benefit Toys for Tots, a nationwide effort sponsored by the United States Marine Corps. Additionally, Avila participants made a \$100 cash donation.

Avila welcomed the 24th Marine Division to kick off the campaign with a celebration, including the advanceMembers of the 24th Marine Division join Avila President Ron Slepitza, Avila board of counselors member Belinda Troxler and Avila Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Charlene Gould at the university's Toys for Tots kick off.

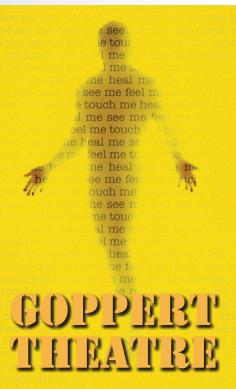
ment of colors, on Thursday, November 19, 2009, in the Marian Center. Avila's Veterans Service Organization (VSO) spearheaded the toy drive efforts, which provided Christmas gifts to Kansas City children in need. VSO encouraged campus organizations and clubs to join them in supporting the toy drive during the holiday season.

"VSO is proud to celebrate the goal of Toys for Tots—delivering, through new toys at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens," said Larry Hayes, VSO president. "We appreciated the help of others at Avila who joined us in this

endeavor this past holiday season."

Since its inception in 1947, United States Marine Corps Reservists and their partnering organizations have distributed more than 400 million toys to more than 188 million needy children. For more information, visit www.toysfortots.org.





THE WHO'S MANAGEMENT OF THE WARD OF THE WA

by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuff April 22–25

Childhood trauma severs Tommy from his ability to communicate with the world until he grows to become a cult messiah as the "Pinball Wizard." Follow Tommy along his "Amazing Journey" and hear him achieve triumphant restoration in Townshend's epic rock opera.

The Who's Tommy contains mature subject matter.

Box Office: 816.501.3699

On-line ticketing is available: www.avila.edu/theatre/tickets.asp

Avila professor brings annual marketing seminar to campus

rian Buckler, Ph.D. doesn't let any grass grow under his feet. When he isn't busy with his teaching duties as a marketing professor at Avila (a position he's held since 1996), he participates in various activities with the Kansas City chapter of the American Marketing Association (AMA-KC) and authors marketing-themed articles for various research journals.

All of these things combine and lend themselves to information he shares with his undergraduate and MBA students.

Specifically, Buckler has served two terms as the AMA-KC president and holds a position on the group's board of directors. Currently, he is the vice president of strategic initiatives, which includes organizing the AMA-KC annual seminar and mentoring/training new board members.

"The seminar is held every year on Avila's campus," Buckler said. "It's a big event attended by 400 marketing professionals. It's a great way to showcase the campus and to introduce students to a broad array of industry talent."

The chairman of consumer products for Disney will headline this year's event, slated for April 27. Past speakers include marketing representatives from Nike and Facebook. With an emphasis on education, AMA-KC works with speakers to donate their appearance fees to local charities and educational outreach funds, including the technical theatre department at Avila.

"AMA's primary goal is a focus on education for marketing professionals and students," Buckler explained. "All our events have an educational slant towards professional networking and professional development."



Avila's Goppert Theatre lobby quickly filled to capacity as attendees awaited entrance to the 2009 AMA annual seminar featuring Facebook.



Additionally, AMA-KC was one of the first chapters nationally to allow students to join the group for free, another fact that Buckler shares with his Avila students.

"It's important not only to teach marketing principles in the classroom but also to introduce students to opportunities where they can showcase their own thoughts, ideas and talents," Buckler added.

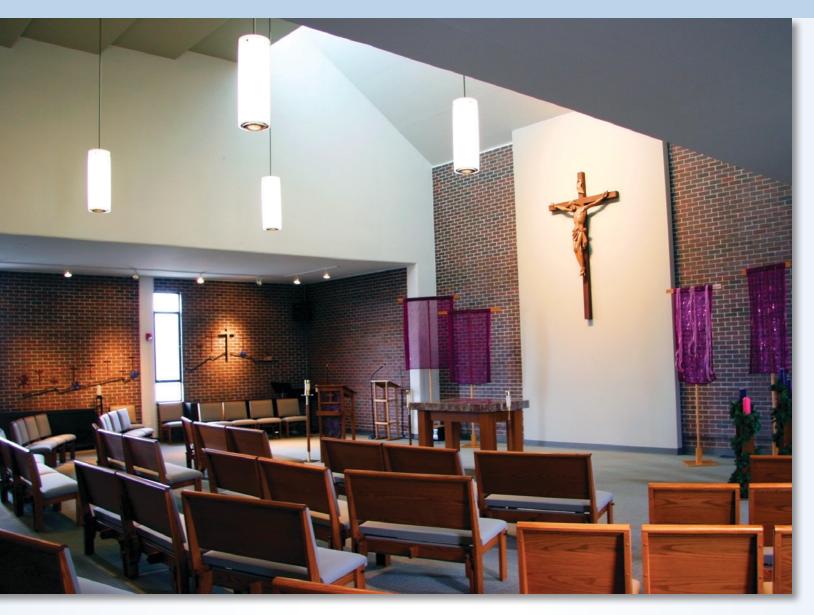
Outside of his AMA-KC involvement and classroom duties, Buckler spends time conducting academic research, which he suspects that many lay people consider "dry."

"Most people think academic research is boring," Bucker said. "But I have chosen areas of consumer behavior that are interesting to me, and I find this helps me talk about my findings in class and relay information to my students."

His recent research topics have included consumer boycotts (looking at what angers consumers and how behavior is stopped due to strong feelings) and compulsive buying (exploring the extent of hidden behaviors and from whom consumers hide their purchases, etc).

Whether he is in the classroom engaging students in marketing discussions, promoting the field of marketing through his work with the AMA or conducting consumer research, Buckler shows his commitment to and enthusiasm for marketing and education.

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Orscheln Chapel renovation complete

he Orscheln Chapel has long been a point of pride on campus, but significant wear over 40 years of use had really taken a toll on the sacred space. Thanks to the support of our alumni and friends, Avila University completed a major facelift to the space in November and celebrated the blessing of the renovated chapel during the Advent season.

The project was initiated to honor S. Olive Louise Dallavis on her retirement after 57 years of service to Avila. While serving as the University's president, she was responsible for the chapel's construction in the late 1960s, along with most of the present day campus, and it was a fitting tribute to her commitment to the institution. She returned from Nazareth Living Center in St. Louis to take part in the blessing on December 6, thanking many of those in attendance for their role in making the project happen.

"We have truly been blessed by our many benefactors. I love this chapel," S. Olive Louise said as she singled out her many friends who attended the event.

The upgrades included replacing the carpet and installing new light fixtures and accent furniture. New flexible seating also was installed so that the space can be set up in a variety of layouts to host other prayer services and musical performances appropriate to a sacred space. A new accent facade over the brick wall behind the altar now features a hand-carved crucifix imported from Italy. Additional facades in back have allowed statues of the Holy Family and the university's patron saint, Teresa of Avila, to be highlighted; these statues were carved by S. Joan Clish, CSJ, in the 1960s. A plaque now hangs outside the chapel listing all those who supported the renovation.

We welcome everyone to stop by campus and spend a few minutes in the new chapel or join the Avila community at 11 a.m. for Sunday Mass during the school year.





Avila receives Mabee Challenge Grant

vila University received conditional approval from the Mabee Foundation for a \$900,000 Challenge Grant in support of a \$4.55 million dollar project that is highlighted by the following capital improvements:

Mabee Fieldhouse Expansion

A 9,000 square-foot addition to the northwest will allow for the development of a second practice court for our varsity athletic teams and support the growth of intramural programs for the entire student body. An expanded weight room and improved fitness facilities also will be a part of the expansion. Additionally, the pavilion-style building will be able to host major campus functions and potential community events.

Anatomy Lab Renovation

With Avila's enrollment growth in nursing and health sciences, the university needs to continue to address the inadequacies in the science labs. Following on the heels of the recently renovated biology lab, this project will modernize O'Rielly 215, bringing new technology into the classroom. Assuming there are no major surprises during the renovation, the northwest entrance into O'Rielly also should receive a facelift.

Whitfield Center Lobby Renovation

The Center's lobby is going to be redesigned to create a campus commons area for students, faculty and staff. Preliminary plans include the addition of a coffee shoptype facility where refreshments will be available, and a more comfortable gathering space will be created.

Entrance Signage

Plans already are under development for a new entrance sign at the north edge of campus along Wornall Road. With the intention of fitting seamlessly with the look and feel of Jeanne Hamilton Olofson Plaza, the new sign and landscaping will be an attractive addition to campus.

Avila still needs to raise approximately \$1,000,000 by December 31 to receive the Challenge Grant, so much work remains yet this year. However, we are very excited to see the continued growth and development of the Avila campus to better serve our students and the entire campus community.

The Advancement staff would be happy to visit with anyone interested in making a pledge to support any of these projects! Alternatively, pledges can be made online at www.avila.edu/mabeechallenge.



Avila University and Hartsook Institute form partnership

vila University recently announced it has formed a partnership with Hartsook Institute for Fundraising to provide the region's first master's degree in management with an emphasis in fundraising. Avila's Board of Trustees accepted a \$1.2 million gift from Bob Hartsook and the Hartsook Companies, Inc., to fund the initial Hartsook Institute for Fundraising at Avila University.

"Avila is positioned well to implement this kind of entrepreneurial opportunity," said Avila President Ron Slepitza, Ph.D. "We have made the commitment that we want to be the center for fundraising education for our area. When Bob approached us, we jumped on board immediately. Once we started moving forward, our academic leadership achieved accreditation for the program in record time. It speaks volumes for the respect the Higher Learning Commission has for our faculty, staff and university."

Hartsook Companies, which recently moved its world headquarters to Kansas City, is one of the most prominent names in fundraising consulting and has created a worldwide network for fundraising education. The goal of the Institute is to grow philanthropy through research and knowledge-based, innovative fundraising education.

Avila University has been selected as the initial site for this new venture. As a result, Avila has presented to its trustees the successful accreditation of a master's degree in management with an emphasis in fundraising. Only two other similar degrees exist in the country — one at Columbia University and the other at New York University (NYU). What makes Avila's degree unique is that it is the only master's degree developed as a result of the work of Adrian Sargeant, Ph.D., the Robert F. Hartsook Chair in Fundraising at the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. Sargeant's work, along with the research application proven by the Hartsook Companies, will result in the first research knowledge, competency-based master's degree in the world.

Dr. Sargeant, the author of several texts and recognized by international publications as one of the ten most influential people in the nonprofit world, is the visiting professor for the Institute and a member of the curriculum development committee.

"At the Center, we all recognize that Bob is obsessed about developing a higher quality fundraising professional. I am fortunate to hold his Chair [at Indiana] and join him in this venture," said Sargeant.

When Bob Hartsook, president of the Hartsook Institute and chairman of Hartsook Companies, gave Indiana University \$1.5 million to endow the Chair, his intention was to draw attention to the fundraising profession.

"While we would all like to think that philanthropy

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happens purely because a good nonprofit and a philanthropist collide, the reality is that a fundraiser is usually at the intersection of that exchange," said Hartsook. "Unfortunately, as I stated when I endowed the Chair at Indiana, I believed the current fundraising educational models were flawed and the evidence of that is that philanthropy has grown very little each year.

"The endowed Chair was the first step in changing the model, and the creation of the Avila Hartsook Institute is the next step. Ultimately, Hartsook's goal is to change the model of fundraising education in America and the world.

"Kansas City is proud to be the initial site for this groundbreaking academic venture into fundraising education," said Laura McKnight, president and CEO of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. "While Kansas City is a very philanthropic community, our needs outstrip the community's resources. I agree that improving the quality of the fundraising professional could have a profound impact on dollars available. We are excited for this partnership with a long-time KC friend, Hartsook Companies, and a long-time KC educational leader, Avila University."

"I have known Bob Hartsook for 30 years, and there is no one more committed to improving the quality of fundraisers in our country," commented Murray Blackwelder, president of the U.M.K.C. Foundation and former senior vice president of Purdue University. "His obsession about increasing philanthropy has driven him for years. To see him take this step after he endowed the Hartsook Chair at Indiana University is the next natural step for his dream of growing fundraising skills."

"Establishing a research-based graduate program with a fundraising emphasis is a bold step in the quest to increase philanthropy. Avila and Hartsook are to be commended for this investment in the future," said Lou Gehring, executive director of the Shawnee Mission Medical Center Foundation and the 2009 Association of Fundraising Professionals Fundraiser of the Year.

According to Hartsook, Bank of America periodically has surveyed the high net worth donor on a number of issues and reported that the fundraiser is a critical part of the donor's decision. The Indiana study on giving by the top three percent of donors, funded by Bank of America, has placed the fundraiser at or near the top of important counsel in making a gift. This group represents nearly 70 percent of all philanthropy in America.

"We welcome this investment in Kansas City to improve fundraising education in our community," added Bob Regnier, president and CEO of Bank of Blue Valley and a member of the Hartsook Kansas City Advisory Board. "This is an unprecedented opportunity for the fundraising community to have a champion in the Hartsook Institute to encourage the development of a body of knowledge for the profession."



Honoring Avila's Legacy

vila College was an evolving institution in the midto late 1970s. Men had been admitted as full-time students for just a few years, and the Sisters of St. Joseph were beginning to rely more and more upon lay faculty and staff members to deal with a growing student population. One of those new staff members was an energetic young Minnesotan with a big heart, Tom Lease.

Serving as Avila's director of student life from 1976-1985 and vice president and dean for student affairs from 1985-2000, Tom's influence was felt by a generation of faculty, staff and students. He was a mentor to countless students and helped launch the careers of dozens of young student affairs professionals.

During the summer and fall of 2009, Tom's friends

and family honored his legacy through a fundraising effort to name the patio outside of the Hodes Center in his honor. As a quiet gathering place, the patio serves as a gentle reminder of Tom's humble nature. Immediately adjacent to both student housing and the Hodes Center, the patio reminds us that Tom's focus was always on student well-being and success.

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Avila alum excels in military career

ach day before going to court, Christopher Thompson, a 1994 Avila University graduate, strapped on his body armor and made sure his sidearm was ready for action.

Thompson, a captain and a lawyer in the U.S. Air Force, was on his way to the Central Criminal Court of Iraq. There, Thompson presented evidence that helped put away terrorists who had killed civilians and American soldiers.

Thompson was part of America's effort to establish a legal system in Iraq to replace the kangaroo courts of Saddam Hussein's era.

"It was history in the making," said Thompson. "We were helping set up the rule of law based on evidence. It is something that I'll tell my grandkids about."

Thompson credited his Avila education for putting him on the historic journey that allowed him to make an impact on the world. He said his professors instilled in him the integrity, intellectual toughness and analytical abilities to prepare him for a law career.

Thompson grew up in Kansas City and graduated from Rockhurst High School, and he recalls being a "bit rambunctious" at Avila.

Take his first day in S. Mary McGlone's theology class. He was sitting in the back of the classroom and acting up, and she told him to sit in the front row.

"She prepared me for the drill sergeants in the Air Force," he joked. But Thompson added he quickly learned to appreciate Sister Mary.

"She used the Socratic method of asking the class questions, which is the same teaching style used in law school," he said.

He also quickly learned to like her.

"She picked me to carry the candle at the graduation Mass, which was an honor," Thompson added.

Thompson graduated with a degree in psychology, which he put to use in his first job out of college as a deputy in the Johnson County Sheriff's Department in Olathe, Kan. Thompson worked in the county jail and watched prisoners, some of whom had mental problems. He found that playing chess with them calmed them.

While working in the sheriff's department, he completed a master's degree in psychology at Webster University and transferred to the county's Mental Health Center. There, he gathered evidence for mental competency cases. In those cases, a judge ordered medical care for people who are not able to take care of themselves.

In one instance, a man was not able to care for himself, and the judge authorized medical treatment.

"A doctor came up to me and said I'd saved the man's life," Thompson said.









"The man was diabetic and would have died in two weeks if he hadn't gotten treatment. It's hard to put into words what it is like to save another person's life."

The experience increased Thompson's interest in the law, and he again credited Avila for preparing him for a legal career, including psychology professor Frank Yeatman, Thompson's advisor for his seniorthesis project.

"He helped me a lot with analytical thinking and that helped me when I took the law school admission test," said Thompson, who finished his law degree in 2003 at Washburn University in Topeka, Kan.

After graduation, Thompson married Rebecca Chase and enlisted in the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG), the legal arm of the Air Force. Thompson remains happy with his decision to enter the military.

"I had no idea how cool it would be to be a JAG," he said. "I get to practice so many different kinds of law. There is labor law, environmental law and many other kinds of law."

Thompson initially presented evidence in criminal cases tried by military courts and federal courts in the United States. In 2008, he went to work in the Central Criminal Court of Iraq.

Thompson stayed in Baghdad's relatively safe Green Zone, but the court was in the dangerous Red Zone. Every day, he donned body armor and carried a weapon while a military escort took him to the court.

At court, he presented testimony and other evidence gathered from American soldiers and marines against those accused of planting bombs and killing people. A judge then decided whether the suspect should go to trial or be released.

"It had to be compelling evidence for the judge to order a trial," Thompson said. He recalled the satisfaction of telling a wounded soldier that someone had been convicted for shooting him

"That felt amazing," he said.
As for his personal safety, Thompson had a couple of close calls, including a rocket that exploded about 25 feet from him during Mass. Thompson wasn't hurt but does have one funny war story.

"I like to tell people I broke my finger while I was fighting off a terrorist," he said, "but the truth is it occurred during a pick-up game of basketball."

Since returning to the United States, Thompson has practiced law at various Air Force locations. Part of his job is to advise commanders about the law, rules and ethics.

Often times Thompson is forced to make tough decisions about policies. He believes Avila taught him integrity, helped define his character and taught him to stand by his principles.

Currently, Thompson, his wife Rebecca and their two daughters, Madeline, 3, and Abigail, 2, live in Shreveport, La. He is stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base and advises commanders there and at other bases.

And in the near future, he hopes to continue to put his Avila education to work as a part-time law professor and use the same teaching style as S. Mary.

"I will now be able to impart the educational skills I learned at Avila to a new batch of students. Maybe I will be able to positively influence a student the same way I was positively influenced by the sisters at Avila," Thompson said.

"I may move a young impetuous student who thinks he will run my class into the front row and teach him about the law – just like I was taught religion at Avila," he concluded.

Top: At the U.S. embassy in Baghdad in 2008, Gen. David Howell Petraeus thanks Thompson for serving his country. Bottom: Thompson, wife Rebecca and their two daughters, Madeline and Abigail, on vacation in Napa Valley, Calif.



Finding strength in faith, family and community

ne needs to meet the Millers only once to recognize the strength and value of family. Their deep commitment to their faith, the community and to each other is immediately evident. They are truly dedicated to service, devoted to each other and "rooted in faith."

The seeds of this family were planted in Kansas City not long after World War I, when Bob's parents, Bob Sr. and Mary Tierney Miller, moved from Leavenworth to a mid-town neighborhood. They became living examples of what it means to invest in your community by volunteering at church, school and community service organizations. It is a lesson that Bob Miller learned well and has lived out his entire life.

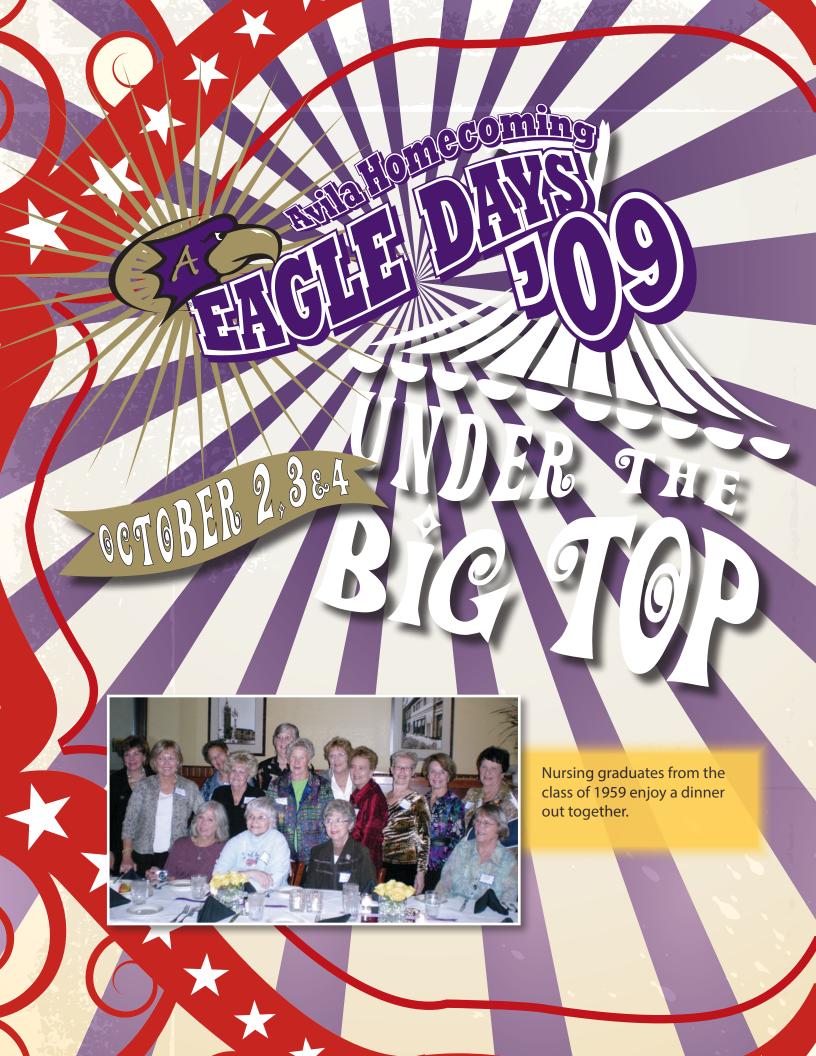
Bob and Carol's community involvement ranges from the urban core of Kansas City to the far reaches of the world. Their commitment to serve has taken them to Africa, Asia and Latin America. However, they always remain rooted in the Kansas City area, knowing that needs at home are often as great as needs abroad.

They are members of the Avila family as neighbors, board members, instructors, friends and this year's Steer Dinner honorary chairs.

Bob and Carol have passed this sense of service along to their children: Sean, Matt, Marie and Therese. They and their families have embraced Bob and Carol's generous spirit and can be found volunteering for community organizations, supporting their respective parishes and helping those in need. We can all gratefully look to the future, as the seeds planted in the Miller home have taken root and are blossoming in their children and grandchildren.

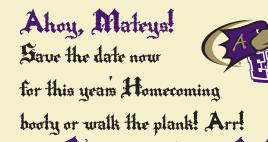
For countless people who have been touched by this family, life is so much better because of the Millers' dedication to the service of others. Avila is proud to honor Bob and Carol Miller and their family, who so aptly represent the values we seek to instill in all our students.

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Winners of the Alumni Awards take time after the ceremony to pose for a picture.



September 24-26



Sister Olive Louise Dallavis and Vita Goppert prepare to enjoy outdoor Mass on the Jeanne Hamilton Olofson Plaza on Sunday morning.



Fans show their spirit and their appetites at the pre-game tailgate.

Avila's Glitter Girls clown around before their performance at the Eagle Madness pep rally.



Volunteerism creates professional opportunities

hen going through a life transition, people are often encouraged to volunteer in order to find their interests, discover new talents and give back to society. In rare cases, however, doing good can turn out well for the volunteer by offering the individual an employment opportunity.

Keith Richcreek, ('05, '08) senior technical analyst for HCA Midwest, found himself looking for a new job after a series of layoffs at his long-time employer. After networking, sending out e-mails, doing informational interviews and joining job clubs, he felt he was getting nowhere in his job search. He was hoping to break into the healthcare industry because of all the opportunity he saw for growth. However, each time he submitted a resume for a position in healthcare, he was told he did not have the required experience and was not qualified for the job.

Looking to gain some experience, Keith contacted the volunteer manager at Menorah Medical Center. She indicated they did not have a need for volunteers at that time and that he should check back with her at a later date. Fortunately for Keith, their conversation continued, and she asked about his background. He shared that he was an experienced IT professional looking to gain some experience in the healthcare industry. He explained that he didn't expect a job to come out of it, but that he would like to give back to the community. The volunteer manager took the extra step of contacting the information technology department, which led to an unexpected opportunity for Keith to volunteer.

After management saw who Keith was as a person and witnessed his work habits, the company opened a job that was previously on hold for Keith; this led to his current position, where he provides computer support for HCA's midwest division as well as Allen County Hospital





and Overland Park Regional Medical Center. As a senior analyst, he also coaches and mentors others.

"I really did not expect a job offer to come out of volunteering, but I later found out that management was impressed that I was willing to give up my time and help out while I was unemployed," Keith stated.

Bailey Umstadd Carr ('09) currently is a volunteer specialist for AmeriCorp Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA). She is serving at Harvesters, Kansas City's regional food bank. On a daily basis, Bailey responds to volunteer inquiries, gives tours and goes on speaking engagements to inform the community about Harvesters and its need for community support.

Bailey's first contact with Harvesters was through her First Year Seminar class at Avila. As a part of the class curriculum, students spent a day learning about the organization and volunteering by completing tasks like cleaning, sorting food and preparing food for distribution. She returned each year as a First Year mentor.

According to Bailey, "Avila played a huge role in my desire to volunteer. Growing up in a small town, there weren't many opportunities to volunteer. Avila opened my eyes to a whole other world, one that I hope to continue to make my career."

Like Bailey, Keith also credits Avila with influencing his desire to volunteer.

"I attended classes with others who worked for nonprofits and heard their stories," he recounts. "You hear so much around the campus about how Avila works very hard to be a part of the community and all they do to give back. It's so true, and this time it paid off for me as well"

It is often said that volunteers receive as much or more by giving of themselves than the recipient organization benefits. In both of these cases, giving back through volunteerism helped Keith and Bailey to continue to serve and to launch new careers at the same time.

Avila alum honored as 2009 Missouri Teacher of the Year

fter 19 years in the classroom, it might take a lot to shock Susanne Mitko, but being named the 2009 Missouri Teacher of the Year came pretty close.

Mitko – who graduated in 1998 with her master's of education degree from Avila – currently teaches Eastern Hemisphere social studies at Bernard Campbell Middle School in Lee's Summit, Mo. Initially, she was chosen as one of six Teacher of the Year finalists from 43 Missouri school districts. From there, Mitko was selected for the overall honor, which was presented to her at a school assembly in September 2009, cleverly disguised to her and her students as a tutorial on magazine fundraising sales.

Along with the initial surprise of her award, Mitko became Missouri's candidate for the 2009 National Teacher of the Year. While she did not receive the national award, Mitko truly feels like a winner.

"I teach in a great district, and there are so many wonderful teachers who work with me," Mitko explained. "Being honored with the statewide Teacher of the Year award just makes me strive to continue to do my best."

That standard of excellence is one that Mitko honed while earning her master's degree at Avila. In her class-room each day, she strives to help her students realize that teaching is what she loves and that each of them can find a job someday that makes them equally content.

"If you want to wake up happy every morning, find a job that supports you and lets you make a difference in people's lives," Mitko said. "Find something that makes the world a better place."

Additionally, Mitko gives Avila's education department and master's program a gold star.

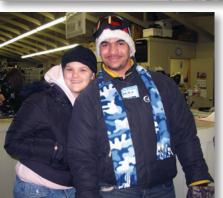
"Avila's program was incredible, and it completely changed the way I teach," Mitko said. "Instead of repeating concepts at a slower pace to students who weren't comprehending, I began to see how I can reach each of my students no matter their strengths or learning styles. You have to teach the learner in front of you, not just the information. I'm such a better teacher due to my time and degree from Avila."

"You have to teach the learner in front of you, not just the information.
I'm such a better teacher due to my time and degree from Avila."























Attention, alums!

Advice and job information is available to Avila graduates in Career Services

Ith a mission of facilitating the transition from college to career for all students, Avila University's Career Services office remains one of the busiest spots on campus.

"We don't place students in jobs, but we offer tools they can use to help find employment that is right for them," explained Gina Frigault, director of Career Services. "We answer questions, and we point graduates in the right direction, offering them networking suggestions and other keys to landing their jobs."

Frigault stresses that services provided by her office are for current students and Avila alumni.

"We welcome individuals who have graduated from Avila to meet with us and learn more about how we might assist them, whether they are transitioning from one career to another or are looking to find a new job after a layoff," she said.

Specifically, Frigault and her staff recommend some initial steps for anyone planning to visit Career Services for assistance:

■ Ready your résumé:

The Career Services team will ask to review your résumé and will spend time with you to enhance it, enabling them to assist you in presenting the best package about yourself, your skills and your career experiences.

■ Log on for more information:

Visit www.avila.edu/careers to explore the online tools available to you as an Avila student or alumni. Via programs such as the College Central Network (CCN), you can explore job postings from employers who have relationships with Avila and are familiar with the degree programs offered at the university. A number of other resources also are available via the "Employment Resources" page; click on "Job Postings" then "Leads" to view this page.

■ Take inventory of yourself from a careerbased standpoint:

Some students and graduates choose to participate in "Do What You Are," a 30-minute online career assessment program. The feedback from this program gives participants perspective on their individual interests, needs and values as well as recognition of select personality traits

and career suggestions based on these qualities. The Career Services team then will meet with you to review the assessment and offer counsel on the next steps in your job search.

■ Practice, practice:

Career Services hosts mock interviews every February and October, giving important "practice sessions" to students and alumni who are about to face potential employers. Typically, these sessions last 45 minutes – time with the practice interview followed by concrete feedback from the facilitator.

■ Think about who you know:

Frigault and her staff stress the importance of networking and broadening the host of people with whom you interact and communicate on a professional level. They encourage students and alumni to continuously make new contacts and open new doors, even if those opportunities come without pay – the experiences gained may pay off greater in the long run.

"By visiting our office and spending time talking through your situation or career goals, we can get a clearer picture of where to go next," Frigault said. "Talking and hearing yourself say things sometimes can help clarify your thoughts and needs in the process."

Additionally, alumni who have jobs to fill also can assist Career Services by submitting those jobs to CCN.

"We always appreciate alumni who let us know when they are hiring," Frigault explained. "Additionally, alumni wanting to give back to Avila may volunteer with mock interviews, offer job shadowing opportunities or set up mentoring experiences with our current students."

Most importantly, the Career Services office highly recommends scheduling an appointment to assure ample time and attention to each student's or alumni's individual needs. Please reach them at 816-501-2901. ■

"The assistance I received from Avila's Career Services was invaluable. I learned how to make my résumé stand out in the crowd, and I also learned how to present myself in a way that would make prospective employers want to hire me."

Tamela L. Handie M.B.A., '99; B.S.B.A., '93 Financial Analyst, Kansas City Finance Department/ Treasury Division



- '59 Caroline (Levy) Haessler went to Hangzhou, China, in June 2009, where she did an external study in traditional Chinese medicine.
- **'75 Martha (Todd) Yager** is currently retired and living south of Warsaw, Mo. Martha graduated with a bachelor of science in nursing from Avila.
- '76 Ruth (Juarez) Jones is currently employed in an academic setting and directs the Division of Allied Health. She has fond memories of Avila College as it was called in her years and appreciates the fine education she received. Ruth graduated with a bachelor of science in nursing from Avila.
- '83 Lisa (Lyons) Arnold retired from a twenty-four year career in the Navy Nurse Corps and is now working as a Federal Recovery Coordinator for the Department of Defense and the Veterans Health Administration. Lisa provides oversight of the care for seriously wounded, ill and injured service members. She has grown roots in San Diego with her son, Colin, who is a junior at Cathedral Catholic High School. Lisa received her bachelor of science in nursing from Avila.
- '84, '96 Gwendolyn (Hash) Roche received her master's degree in educational administration in 2006. She currently is serving as the principal of St. Thomas Catholic

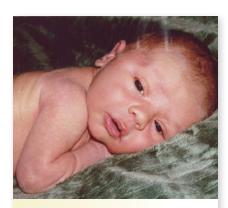
- School in Philo, III. Gwendolyn received her bachelor of arts in communication and her certificate in elementary education from Avila.
- **'89 Dennis Wayne Pittman** is happily three years away from retirement. Dennis received his bachelor of science in business administration from Avila.
- **'89 Katherine Anne Varney** has been an attorney for 17 years. She currently has four children and is a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves. Katherine received her bachelor of science in business administration from Avila.
- '97 Kirsten Lipari-Braman recently moved back to the Kansas City area after spending four years in Fort Belvoir, Va. Kirsten will be working for the School Improvement Office in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as the new federal instructional improvement supervisor for the Kansas City region. Kirsten received her bachelor of science in elementary education from Avila.
- '98 Susanne Mitko was named the 2009 Missouri Teacher of the Year on Sept. 1, 2009. Susanne currently works at Bernard Campbell Middle School as a seventh-grade social studies teacher and works at Avila University as an adjunct professor. She earned her master of arts in education from Avila University.

- ****00 Bob Turner** recently accepted the position of Oklahoma/Arkansas property claims manager for Farmers Insurance. Bob and his wife Melissa, '02, as well as their daughters, Logan and Maison, have relocated to Edmond, Okla. Bob received his bachelor of science in business administration from Avila.
- '03 Rachel (Gage) Callahan is currently working at the prestigious Massachusetts General Hospital and recently has accepted a job in the ER. Rachel gave birth to twins in August of 2009. She received her bachelor of science in radiologic technology from Avila.
- 103 Monique Owens graduated from Webster University in May 2009 with a master's degree in health administration. She has been working at Research Medical Center for five years, two as the charge nurse in the medical-surgical unit. Monique received her bachelor of science in nursing from Avila.
- **'03** Amye (Ladd) Johnson married Daniel Johnson Sept. 26, 2009. Amye received her bachelor of science in business administration from Avila.
- **'04** Jenny (Pemberton)

 Nash and her husband Dave welcomed their third daughter, Kendyll Macey Nash, on May 6, 2009. Kendyll joined twin sisters, Kamryn Marie and Kadynce Mae. Jenny received

her bachelor of science in elementary education from Avila University.

205 Stacy (Melia) Gear was married on July 17, 2009. Stacy currently is pursuing a master's degree in business administration at Wichita State University and is employed as a family business consultant at Legasus Group, LC. She received her bachelor of science in business administration from Avila.



206 Roger and Raquel Stark welcomed their first child, Quade Allen, into the world on August 7, 2009. Roger received his bachelor of science in sports medicine from Avila University.

'07 Stephanie (Johnson)
Voorhis and William Voorhis.
'08, were married in May 2007
and welcomed twin girls,
Addison Kendal and Aubrie
Grace, on August 9, 2009.
Stephanie received her bachelor
of science in nursing from Avila
University, and Bill received his
bachelor of arts in art history.



Onken married Travis Onken on Sept. 5, 2009. The couple is residing in St. Joseph, Mo., as new homeowners. Jacqui currently is freelancing in graphic design.

- **'54 Bettie Rotert** is celebrating her first grandchild.
- **'56 Beverly Mahl** is moving to Washington State.
- **'59 Norma Szumingala** celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary.
- **'00 Michael Muller** is building a new house.
- '04 Laura Beth Barr and Tyler Barr, '02, moved to Lee's Summit.
- **'08 Bridget Therese Johnson** recently moved back to Wichita.





June 6, 2010

Alumni Day at the K

Join us as we watch the Royals take on the Tigers. More information to come soon!

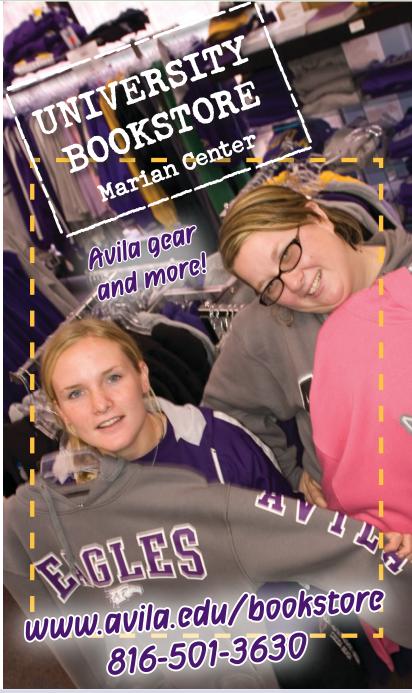
June 12, 2010

Alumni Day at Worlds of Fun

We'll picnic and ride all day long! Discounted tickets will be on sale soon for this event. Join other alumni for a family picnic at the start of the day, then ride until the park closes for one price. Watch www.avila.edu/alumni/events.asp for more details as the event approaches!

September 24-26, 2010

Eagle Days Avila's Homecoming





Staying connected to Avila is easy!

Submit your news for publication in *Accent*. Let us know when you get a new job or promotion, get engaged or married, have babies, retire or take a fabulous vacation. You also can send photos! Return this form or update your information online at www.avila.edu/alumni/update.asp

Name:	Maiden:	Class Year:
Address:	Phone	: ()
E-mail:	News:	
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- **'33** Frida (Stauch) Bowes passed away on September 17, 2009. Frida received her associate of arts from the College of St. Theresa, now Avila University.
- **'36 Lillian (Learnihan) Burnett** passed away on February 9, 2009. Lillian received her associate of arts from the College of St. Teresa, now Avila University.
- **'40 Helen (Nigro) Maggio** passed away on July 2, 2009. Helen received her associate of arts from the College of St. Theresa, now Avila University.
- **'49 Mary T. Kennedy** passed away on January 7, 2010. Mary received her bachelor of science in nursing from the College of St. Theresa, now Avila University.
- **'50 Doris Jean (Frohoff) Ganz** passed away November 15, 2009. Doris graduated summa cum laude in English literature from the College of St. Theresa, now Avila University.
- **'50** Rose (Depiesse) **Stechmann** passed away on

 June 24, 2009. Rose received her certificate in nursing from the

 College of St. Teresa, now Avila

 University.

- **'58 Nancy (Fischer) Gaskill** passed away on September 14, 2009. Nancy received her bachelor of science in nursing from the College of St. Teresa, now Avila University.
- **'58 Elaine Roy** passed away on November 20, 2009. Elaine received her bachelor of science in nursing from the College of St. Teresa, now Avila University.
- **'62 Judith (Pierce) Hall** passed away on January 6, 2010. Judith received her bachelor of arts in history from Avila.
- **'79 Maxine O. Tivis** passed away on July 7, 2009. Maxine earned her bachelor of science in social work from Avila.
- **'81 Edward Earl Adkins** passed away on June 29, 2009. Edward received his bachelor of arts in personal and industrial relations from Avila.
- '99 Anita Marie (Smith)
 Bergman passed away on
 September 19, 2009. Anita
 received her bachelor of science
 in elementary education from
 Avila.

Arthur (Arde) Fuller, Jr. Arde Fuller (Avila Men's Basketball 1998–2001) lost his long and valiant battle to cancer on January 29, 2010.

Friends of Avila University

Edward Aylward passed away on September 30, 2009.

Clara M. Bauer passed away on July 23, 2009.

Rosemary Cunningham passed away February 21, 2010.

Annabel Shannon Jones passed away on November 4, 2009. Annabel was a member of the President's Scholarship Club at Avila College.

Nick Krpan passed away on July 9, 2009.

Eleanor Krivin passed away on July 9, 2009.

C.T. Rafter, Jr., passed away on July 25, 2009.

Stanley Samborksi passed away on November 7, 2009.

Anne Vaydik passed away on July 7, 2009.

in memoriam

Accent SPRING 2010

Avila tags alum and former KC Chiefs player to become head football coach

Kevin Porter hired to lead the Eagles on the gridiron

he 2010 Avila Eagles football team will hit the field with a new coach — Kevin Porter.

Avila President Ron Slepitza and Athletic Director Anthony Hall recently introduced Porter as the univer-

sity's new football coach.

"Coach Porter brings the passion, experience and focus on hard work and discipline that we believe will move our program to be competitive year in and year out," said Hall. "He has played and learned from great coaches like Marty Schottenheimer, Pete Carroll, Bill Cowher, Pat Dye, Tony Dungy and Herm Edwards and will share that expertise with our student-athletes."

A native of Warner Robins, Ga., Porter attended Auburn University on a full football scholarship, was a starter on defense all four years and was named second team All-American. He was drafted in 1988 in the third round of the NFL draft and played for six years with the Kansas City Chiefs and New York Jets as cornerback and safety.

Additionally, Porter completed his undergraduate degree in business in 2009 at Avila.

"The biggest realization for me was that I started my degree and I needed to finish it," Porter said. "There are great people at Avila who encouraged me when things were difficult with my coaching and travel schedules."

Specifically, Porter's return to Avila – now as head football coach – will be guided by not only his own collegiate and professional playing experiences but also by advice and knowledge passed along by his coaching mentors.

"While with the Chiefs, Coach Tony Dungy would always talk to the defensive backs about the positive attitude," Porter explained. "He instilled in us that we all had control over very few things but our overall attitude was the one thing we could control. I remember him saying that attitude allows you to focus on the big picture and is the driving factor in developing the 'whole' team. To me, that was excellent advice — the proper attitude is critical to the positive development of the team as a whole."

He also recalls a focus on hard work on all levels of football, and that will be a focus for the Eagles, as well.

"At every level on which I have played or coached, hard work was the centerpiece for success," Porter said. "I was fortunate to play at one of the best high school programs in the country as well as a college program at Auburn that became dominant during my time there. I made it to the NFL as a result of continued hard work required of a young player and that continued as I developed as a professional athlete. I want to bring that type of work ethic to Avila University. Through hard work, our goal is to take the program to new heights and become a destination for student-athletes locally and nationally."



Porter has coached different defensive positions and at different levels since the completion of his playing career. He coached for ten years in the Arena Football League as an assistant and head coach, most recently as the head coach of the Kansas City Brigade. During the past year, he served as defensive coordinator for MidAmerica Nazarene University, one of Avila's opponents in the Heart of America Conference of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

Porter also brings experience in recruiting, having been responsible for all aspects of the college recruiting programs for two different sports agencies. He looks forward to taking on the challenge of the head coaching duties at his alma mater and working with current and future college level players.

"I expect to build a program that will annually compete for the conference championship and the playoffs, and to do it with student-athletes of character who will compete both on the field and in the classroom," Porter said. "I've been a casual observer of the university's football team since the start of the program and my time here as a student, so when the opportunity arose to be a part of something poised to be in the forefront of our sporting community, I was anxious to participate. Avila has great student-athletes committed to their schoolwork and excellence on the football field, and I'm proud to be a part of that."

Slepitza also expressed his great satisfaction in being able to attract one of the university's alumni to fill this important position.

"Coach Porter, through his own experience as a student at Avila, will be able to articulate and contribute to the distinctive nature and value of the educational experience at Avila for our student-athletes who play football. We look forward to him being part of our team," Slepitza added.

Since his hiring, Porter and his staff have focused on winter workouts and continued recruiting. Now that spring practices have begun, he has hit the ground running.

"Our goal is to put an Avila team on the field that represents the university in a first-class manner," Porter concluded. "We will focus on building a positive team atmosphere and relationships with our players. I want them to know me as a coach but also as a person. It's hard work balancing the responsibilities of school and football, and we want our players to remember they represent Avila on and off the field."

Porter is a resident of Shawnee, Kan., with his wife, Annjela, and two young sons, Jacob and Kellen.



Avila adds new teams for 2010-11 season

Athletic department currently recruiting for men's golf, men's and women's cross country

he Athletic Department at Avila University recently expanded its athletic program by adding a men's golf team and cross country teams for both men and women, starting in the fall of 2010. Recruiting for these new teams began in earnest once the announcement was made in October.

"By increasing the number of teams in our intercollegiate program to include men's and women's cross country as well as men's golf, Avila's presence in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) will increase significantly," said Anthony Hall, Jr., director of athletics and recreation. "Ultimately, growing our athletics program means more opportunities for student athletes to compete in the Heart of America Conference."

Lisa Holton, current head coach for the Avila women's golf team, has assumed head coaching duties for both the men's and women's golf teams.

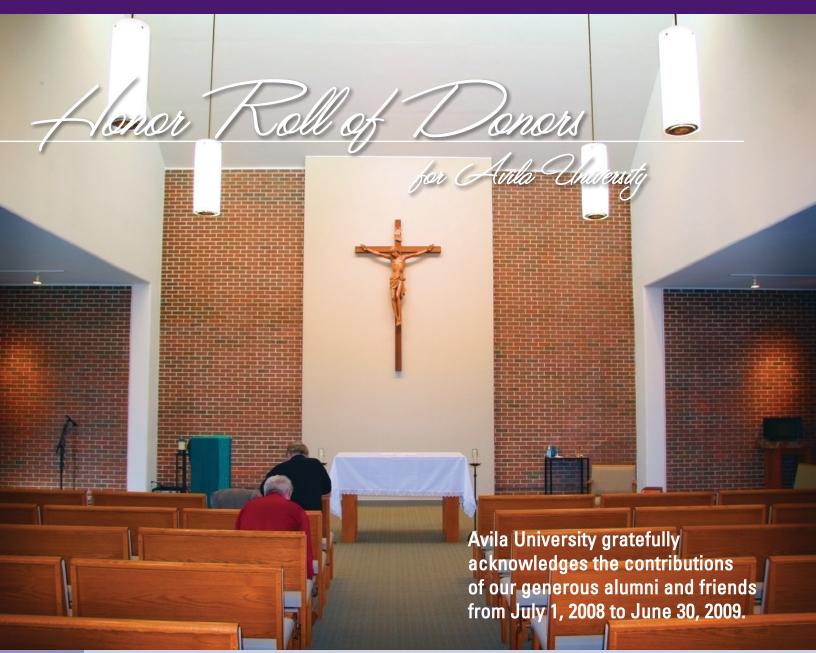
"The Avila women's golf team is excited to be joined by the men in the upcoming year," Holton said. "We anticipate that our Eagles will soar in next season's competition."

Additionally, Avila named David Denny as the new cross-country head coach. Denny, a Raytown, Mo., native, brings more than 30 years of coaching experience, both on the high school and collegiate levels, to the Eagles cross-country team, and he's anxious to start the inaugural season.

"I'm happy to be joining an athletic department that strives to teach and train its student-athletes for life on and off the track," Denny said. "We look forward to a successful first season."

Student athletes interested in more information may contact Lisa Holton at 816-501-2417 or lisa.holton@avila.edu for golf or David Denny at 816-501-2490 or david.denny@avila.edu for cross country.

Accent SPRING 2010 27



Orscheln Memorial Chapel

he President's Circle

Avila's President's Circle was created in 2007 to recognize the distinguished alumni and friends whose level of private support continues to help transform the institution through planned gifts, lifetime giving and annual contributions. The President's Circle serves to:

- Provide an increasing pattern of generous support to the University to enhance quality in all of its academic endeavors and foster an environment of innovation and service to 'the dear neighbor;'
- Develop the active participation of alumni and friends to serve the institution through close association with the president and University community;
- Recognize those whose generosity serves the welfare and advancement of Avila and its students; and,
- Educate all constituents on the importance of philanthropy at Avila.

Thank you to all of the President's Circle members for your leadership and investment in the future of Avila University!

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AVILA HERITAGE SOCIETY MEMBERS

The Avila Heritage Society was established in 1988 to recognize the remarkable contributions of our alumni and friends who have made provisions in their estate plans to support the ongoing and future needs of the University or have created an endowed scholarship fund. The following individuals and families are members of the Avila Heritage Society:

Charles J. & Suzanne S. Adams '69

Kathleen K. Adams '47 Janie Ahnger '76

Don H. & Christine A. Alexander

Alliance Radiology

Anita Alvarez-Ludington '61

Kathleen W. Andrews

† Ann T. Armbruster

† John & † Juanita Bachofer

† Rita Simoneit Banfield

† Raymond & † Geraldine Barrows

Thomas R. & Dyanne L. Bean '95

† Edna A. Bear

Mary Pat Beck '68

Dianne Y. Bell

Virginia Rose Bennert '77

† Ronald Jay & Jane Bennett

Donald & Dr. Mary Etta Benson

† Mike & † Carolyn Berbiglia

Bob & Dr. Phyliss Bernstein '80 & '81

† Alfred & † Kathryn Blasco

Margaret & † James P. Blickhan, Sr.

Henry W. & Marion Bloch

Sr. Mary Benedict Bogart, OP '45

† Edwin Borserine

† Kathleen M. Borserine

† Margaret Borserine

Julia Boutross

Mary Jo Bowman '58

† Jack U. Brady '80

Joseph T. & Phyllis L. Brennan

Freddie Reid & Kitty Wyatt Brinkman Paddi Browne O Sullivan

† Joseph H. Bruening

James & Judith Leah Budde '77

† Henry A. Bundschu

† David & Billie Burandt

Catherine Castelli & † Ronald G. Browning

† James P. & † Mary Ida Compton

Dr. Thomas & Virginia Coppinger '58

Elwood & Dr. Madeline R. Courtright '75

Robert & Rosemary Cunningham

† Elizabeth Debelak Curran

Sr. Olive Louise Dallavis, CSI

† Louis & † Olivia Dallavis

Mary Ellen Daly

Mary Ellen Devine '59

Kathryn Dierks '43

† Lucy & † Richard Dierks

† Edmond & † Aileen Dillion

† Ida Dallavis Downing

Patricia Jansen Doyle '51

† Sr. Marie Georgette Eschbacher, Ph.D.

Mimi T. Fasenmyer '49 & '77

† Rita Dey Fields '35

G. Robert & Terence Lynn Fisher '79

† Mary B. Fleming

† Glen & † Bernadette Flentie '65

Frank Fonteyn

Donald G. Forsythe

† Marie M. Freeman '31

Dr. Thomas & † Anne Smith Fritzlen '53

Dr. Fred & Pam Geer

† Matty Pat Gilford

† Helen Glynn '19

† Clarence H. Goppert

Vita M. Goppert

† Norman & † Dorothea Gordon

Thomas F. Gordon, J.D., LL.M

† Frances H. Gratz

† James A. & Mary Betty Green

† Virginia Greenlease

† Mary Trenetta Grogan '32

† James W. & † Helen Loiuse Haglund '67

Linda & Bruce Hanson

Robert F. Hartsook

Gene Hayes '60

† Twila L. Hegarty

† Mary M. Hill

Evon Hillan '90 Robert F. Hixson, '74

† Gwendola C. Holly '62

† Anne Sarachon Hooley

Priscilla G. Hooper '74

Drs. Maria & Ralph Hunt

† Albert & † Helen M. Incani

Virginia Irvine

Phil & Sheila K. Stacy Johnson '58

† Charles W. Jones

Mary Jane Joyce

Dr. † Pierre & Jane Keitges

Loretta J. Kelley '54

Robert & Rosemary Kilker, '60

† Jack & Mary Agnes Kitchin '57

† Dr. Martha Gail-Kitson '56

Anne L. Knopke

† Virginia Kruse

† Tom & Patricia Leathers
'74

Dr. William J. Louis, '90

A. J. Lutz '92

† Ray & † Rose Maher

James Malouff, III

† Marjory Martin

Pat & † Ralph Martin

† Dorothy H. Mathews, '29

† Jan Mathews '60

Mary Jo McCann

The Honorable Karen McCarthy

Marjorie McGonigle '46

† Florence M. McGregor

† Claribel McLear '59

† Mary Jo McLear '64

Dr. Benjamin & Dianna Meade

† Dr. Mary C. Meehan

David Melton

† Frank & † Mary Margaret Meurer

Jim & Peg Millard

Bob & Carol Miller

† Eugene & Norma Mitchell

Deborah A. Mize ' 85 & '86

† Elizabeth A. Monahan

Karen & Brian Moore

Keith Morgan

† Robert & † Philomena Muntzel

Kathryn G. Murphy '58

† Virginia Murphy '32

Tom & Mary Nastase

† Margaret O'Rielly '18

† Mary Margaret O'Sullivan '26

Jeanne Hamilton Olofson '92 & '94

† Betty Ann Patti

† Barbara Pendleton

Dr. Robert & Beverly Powell



AVILA HERITAGE SOCIETY MEMBERS continued

C. Thomas & Antonia Rafter

Gloria R. Ragan '45

Robert & Carolyn Reintjes

† Philomena Ridgway

Mary K. Riley '40

† Phyllis Ritts-Schroer '65

† Mary Louise Rosenbauer

† Evelyn Nelson Ryan

† Larry & † Kathryn Saeger '37

† Stanley & † Evelyn Samborski '80

Tom & Kathy Sanders

† Charles P. & Jane A. Schleicher '52

† Fred & † Lucille Schorfheide

† G. Richard Scott

Drs. William & Marjorie Sirridge

† Catherine McGee Soden

† Mary Leona Soden '40

† Jean Stephanz '49

† Anne C. Stewart, '21

Bob & Mary Lathrop Stewart '54

Una Chang Strauss '83

† John J. Sullivan, Jr.

Geraldine Sulzer '47

Col. John L. & Theresa B. Sutton '36

Marybeth Swartz '47

† Rose & † Henry Teicher

† Jack & Merla Temple '95

John & Barbara Theis

† Jeanne Collins Thompson '54

† Edward A. & Mary Agnes Thornhill

Iulia A. Trotter '66

Belinda R. Troxler '88

† Lloyd Troxler

† Theodora A. Tucker

M. Joseph & Maryhelen Van Dyke

† Jo Ann Vowells

Joseph P. Vowells

† Bill Waris

Helen E. White

Dorothy A. Whitfield '55

James C. & Ruth M. Willcox

† Marie F. Wood

† Katherine Worth

† Henry & † Patricia J. Wurst

† Harley & † Marge Wyatt Julianne Zukowski

AVILA LIFETIME GIVING SOCIETY

Introduced in 2007, the
Lifetime Giving Society
recognizes donors whose
cumulative giving (outright
gifts + pledge payments)
have reached leadership
levels and transformed the
institution. Where possible,
we have linked donors with
their affiliations and/or family
foundations. The following
individuals and organizations
are members of the Avila
Lifetime Giving Society:

Fr. Jean Pierre Medaille Order \$1,000,000 +

Jean Pierre Medaille was a Jesuit missionary whose journeys took him through the towns and villages of south-central France from about 1640-1670. In 1650, he gathered the first six women who would become Sisters of St. Joseph and urged them to "practice spiritual and corporal works of mercy...which will most benefit the dear neighbor."

Bridge Market Data Company

The Goppert Foundation

The Kresge Foundation

The J.E. & L.E. Mabee Foundation

Mrs. Mary Beth Meyers

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

† Mrs. Rose Sarli Teicher

Mother St. John Fontbonne Order \$500,000-\$999,999

Born Jeanne Fontbonne, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1778. After taking on several leadership roles, Mother St. John as she was called, was taken prisoner during the French Revolution in the 1790's and the order was dispersed. After narrowly escaping the guillotine, she refounded the Sisters of St. Joseph at Lyon, France in 1807. In 1836, she sent six sisters to America where they settled in Carondelet, Missouri.

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Bishop Henri De Maupas Order \$250,000-\$499,999

On October 15, 1650, Bishop De Maupus assembled the six aspirants of Fr. Medaille in LePuy, France, gave official church recognition to them as a religious community, placed them under the protection of St. Joseph and ordered that they should be called the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph. He placed them in charge of an orphan asylum for girls.

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Bishop Joseph Rosati Order \$100,000–\$249,999

Named the bishop of St.
Louis in 1824, Bishop Rosati
oversaw the development
of numerous schools,
orphanages, hospitals and
churches, including the
Basilica of St. Louis the King.
In 1836, Bishop Rosati
asked for help in serving the
needy of the region, which
lead to the Sisters of St.
Joseph coming to Carondelet,
Missouri. The Sisters opened
up St. Joseph Institute for the

Deaf in 1837 and it remains open today.

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LePuy Order \$50,000-\$99,999

In 1650, six women joined together in community under the patronage of St. Joseph in LePuy, France to benefit the dear neighbor without distinction. These first Sisters (Francoise Eyraud, Clauda Chastel, Marguerite Burdier, Anna Chalayer, Anna Vey and Anna Brun) were neither educated nor wealthy, but worked to support themselves by making lace, which still serves as a symbol for the Order today.

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Koehler Barbara A. Moore

Janet M. Hansen O'Connor

Leona Dorothy Stoll Robben

Elizabeth M. Maguire San Filippo

Carolyn Sue Gist Santamaria Meruia Fa-Tuan Chu Yu

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Evelyn K. Bruegger Mary Lou Robey Burhans

Suzanne Becker Chelesnik

Helen E. Caffrey Cooke

Janice L. Luby Cowherd Barbara Ann Metzger

Frank Mary Catherine Halpin Hale

Jeanne Marie Kies



Carol Ann Santonello 1964 1965

Lame Mary McLiney Catherine Butler Owens Rosalie M. Woydziak Schreiber Mary Ann Dunn Brown Annette J. Nocita Craddock Judith Briscoe Dell'Orco Mary Ruth Donnelly Virginia M. Nelson Edwards Rosemary L. Engel Fahlstrom Michaela M. Sheehy Glennemeier Martha H. Shumway Maher Jesdon M. Haake McCowen Kathryn E. Heine McIntyre Janet M. McNerney Reedv Pamela S. Puester Runner Kathleen B. Bauers Shoufler Mary-Alice Staggs Strannigan Mary Kathleen Schurig Sullivan Velma E. Love Woodson Kathyrn Ellen Wyrsch Mary Lou Kelsall Baker Carol (Patty) Moylan Baldwin Mary Evelyn Sullivan Chirpich Cynthia Ann Major Copeland Patricia J. Ominski Davis Gertrude Leavey DeLuca Martha R. Meagher Downey Theresa Ann Morris Egelhoff Frances M. Minges Engel Janet K. Orscheln Fague Joanne S. Parent Harrell Susan Jordan Heath Sharon K. Calloway Henry Virginia L. Munsterman

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Roberta S. Rose Small Martha Delia Leahy Staker 1967

Margaret Ann Donehue Anderson Georgiana M. Hearden Elias Sharon Ann Reardon Flynn Linda Kay Davin Hageman Carolyn M. Schneider Harp Roxana Kirk Howe

Iulie Waters McManus Margaret M. Whelan Millard Doris I. Van Hee Peckron

Dianne Riddle Ramey Janet McCullough Taylor Patricia H. Hunt Thorpe

1968 Mary Patricia Ahland Ahland Mary Pat Beck Rita Jane Waters Carey Karin L. Hayes Cooper Carol Jean Stipetich DeFeo

Karen Ann Steinmetz Goellner Margaret Mary McCabe McCabe Judith Raye Wolski Mulik Michael F. Rankin

Dorothy Ann Faughnan Ronchetto Susan England Smith Marilynn K. Koehler Wright

Susan M. Sullivan Hodes Carolyn R. Koppes Cathy M. Fick McDaniel Velma Buterbaugh Cathleen Anne Connealy Showalter Elaine R. Strope 1973 Kathleen G. Goforth Bel1 Connie Lynn Ripperger Borserine George A. Bratina

1970 Margaret A. Aziere Crowder Kathleen T. Eagan Eagan Karyl Keffler Frick Terry Susan Russell Goldberg Susan Frances Neer Heinsz Marlene D. Arroyo Henderson

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Martha Anne Rupp

Cecelia M. Gatson

Grindel

Laubinger

Schauer

Mary T. Frank Anderson

Mary Patricia McCarthy

Mary Antoinette Lutz

Mary C. Collins Smith

Vivian E. Joseph Strifler

Aldenderfer

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Kathleen G. Keller

Newman

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1971 Mary Jean Cooper Day Janet E. Kalich Hyde Patricia J. Shea Legenza Ann Maria Yates McClintock Beverly Jane Hewes Smith

Mary Ann Daniels Verhulst

1972 Donna Dianne Doyle Antoinette Failoni Garagiola Deborah H. Hudson Guelbert

Enlow Catherine Louise Pelzer Christine Morgan Glenski Patricia Ann Laughlin Leathers Dale R. Ludwick Monica Ann Rafter Maureen P. Dwyer Sebus Jeanne B. Krasick Shidler Rosanna Garcia Caldwell Mary Lynn Dierks Mary Ellen Fischer Clark Svoboda Marilyn DeBacco Shirley Anne Wendel Dianne Claire Fuerst Christine E. Robinson Wilson

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Rundle Katherine T. Tanner Reifsnider Scott Beverly M. Orscheln Scaletty Wilkerson Maryann Bollig Williams Jeanne M. Schmidt Wadhams Zagorac

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Alexander Delecaris

Rita R. Kelly Zeller

Sharon Jane Newill James Raya Elizabeth Gatton Kathleen M. Bock Teresa M. Stadler Teefey Deborah L. Breckenridge Martha L. Todd Yager 1976 Helyn M. Shouse Agee

Klein

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Thomas

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Carlous H. Abner

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Mary Eileen Woods Batterson Kathleen S. Giordano Bechtel Kathryn L. Andrasik Bradley John Gabriel Bryde Ann H. Cathcart Linda L. Vienhage Cosgrove Robert Joseph Dehaemers Kelley Ann McQuillan Martha Louise Erickson Diana L. Bernard Gargus Esther R. Fontana Green Thomas J. Hamblin

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Mosburg

Scott Gerard Huber

James A. Kopetsky

Joseph Emmanuel

Magnant

McKenny

Moorman

Moorman

Schimmel

Hopkins

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Amy Claire Fitzpatrick

Robert John Micco

Karen M. Aubuchon

Kathleen C. Parker

Kathleen M. Roos

Sondra J. Summers-

Janice H. Whitlow

James R. Wright

Anne M. Kempster Rose

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Rhoades

Todd

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Nancy J. Kopp Riordan

Joseph Richard Schrick

Katherine M. Weidler

Judith Ann Wardle

Cherie A. Maher West

Jeanne L. Wissmann

David W. Berberich

Denise R. Gilmore

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Lvnn Ann Lehman Barrett Brooks Espinosa

Virginia P. Coldsnow Joseph Michael Bryde Philip Daniel Bryde Cynthia Ann Lassa Butler Brigid M. McVey Sandra J. Piper Hilliard Judy A. Garst Hinman Doris Jean Hurla Dunrie Ann Seigle Lewis Stuart David Lindeman Marna Louise McAferty Janice E. Bauman McCloud

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Agnes E. Redington Murphy

Renee Beatty Pack

Dan Alexander Pappas

Michael S. Pendergast

Lisa E. WasDyke Sanders

Linda M. Morris Shaffer

Tammy L. Carney Sheets

Christine Marie Walsh

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Ronald H. Bennett

Karen Sue Saar Garrison

Sharon Ann Giangreco
Lois A. Blakemore Gibbs
Susan Marie Hamblin
Karen E. Haynes
Barbara J. Hoover-Schultz
Kimberly G. Morris
Shelly K. Knight Orozco
Teresa D. Lee Russett
Eric John Schmidt
Vivian Ann Cooper
Stockwell
Theresa M. Van Booven
Taylor
Susan M. Van Goethem
Margo Watson

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Christopher Jay Bowman
Beverly Ann McDonald
Campfield
Barbara T. Wells
Courtney
Martha Yaple Diebolt
Debbie A. Heintzelman
Marilyn T. Longhibler
Horsley
Mildred Ann Schroeder
Irwig
Susan Jane Renken Kruse
Michael K. Larson
Loretta L. Rohrich

Miriam L. Levine

Bridget M. Cahill

Carole L. Hickman

Belinda Ruth Troxler

Stoppelman

Schwartz

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Carmen E. Canzonere Bisacca B. Fern Adams Brown Shannon Elizabeth Giles
Michelle Lynn Graff
Carole Ann Cowell
Hillestad
Davona Joy Parsons
Kruger
Angela Christine Metzger
Gary Steven Metzger
Josephine Ann Sciara
Meyers
Crystal Diane Trumbo
Parres
John William Parres

Crystal Diane Trumbo
Parres
John William Parres
Patricia Geraldine
Kampeter Rackers
Howard E. Schwantes
Kari Sue Yoss Scott
Loren Valentine-Reyes
Katherine Anne Kussman
Varney
Lorelei Anne
Whittington

1990

Kimberly Lynn Jurd Blystone Edwinna I. Mendez Garrett Ruth Anne Reeves Gibbs Charles Fredrick Mehrer Marie B. Fiorito Rakiec Kathleen Anne Roy Frank Michael Syracuse

1991

Mary Frances Hiller
Healy
Jean Kathryn Land
Dianna Jean Kirtley
Langford
Larry W. Litle
Margaret Ann Pierce
Peart
Margye Ann McLaughlin
Thornton

Shirley Jean Cowden

1992

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Kathy Leigh Bolton Marcy Lane Martin Caldwell Pamela Suzanne Garrett Elizabeth A. Babish Ginther

Jeanne Hamilton Olofson

Stella Euell Steele

1993

Patricia Ann Tierney Bertoncin Melanie Nichole Flink Burdick Brett Allen Coffman Janet I. Ford James Daryn Peacock Tracy Lynn Sortino Marjorie Jane Hill Stowell

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Karen Katcher Baum Dyanne L. Bean Gregory Louis Bride Michelle Elisa Garcia Pamella Sue Brown Myerson Joyce B. Heimsoth Nelson

Paul G. Williams

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Barbara A. Cordts
Kristi Ann Littleton
Mary D. Dozier Mathews
Timothy David O'Brien
Sarah E. Lathrom Smitka
Regina M. Gicinto Staves
Kelly D. White Wempe

1996

Margaret Ann Appleton Barger Richard Donald Coleman Stephanie Ann Brumback Durbin Sherri L. Resetz Searles David Keith Sears Delbert Loren Taylor Charles Edward Wolken

1997

Terri Lynn Brown Ashley Lisa Lynn Black Eric M. Greble Euvgenia Ureuva Tarasova House John L. Kopecky James V. Watson

998

Rachael M. Cooper-Zimmerman Lara C. Wooten Daugherty Amy K. Weldon Davis Marcia Ann Lane Kenley Brenda Kay Fisher Moore

1999

Dana Carol Tyler Boice Frances L. Betzen Cook Robert A. Fetsch

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Kathryn S. Ross Dovey Marie Woodson

2001

Marianne Spellman Dunn Melody Ann Lakey Folsom Patricia Ann Keeton Harper Jeffrey J. Randolph Susan J. Bettis Smith

2002

Joyce Vivianette Bales Elizabeth Ann Donnelly Blake Edward Fry Sally J. Ravenstein Nellor Megan E. Redenbaugh Sanders Tekia Shanae Thompson

2003

Judy Marie Beiriger
Tracey R. Burks Coffman
Carissa A. Bittiker
Hoover
Amanda M. Kupchin
Huwe
Jeremy M. Lillig
Jacquelene Sarah
Wheeler

Maurice Frank Ayers

2004

Karen E. Everett
Cavender

Laura B. Brown Connolly
Jamie Lecuru
Anthony Lee
Antonia Ferrara Moore
Jennifer A. Peterson
Quick
John Jacob Sanders
Sharon Pacini Sichko

Christina Michelle

Smigin

Kirsten Janine Wells Karen Marie Yeager

Katherine M. Hoag

2005

Anderson Jeffrey Mark Boydston Joseph A. Cherrito Debra J. Ottendorf Cornelius Michael Daniel Fuhrman Deanna Suzanne Herring Linda Jones Kevin M. Larson Jay Robert Orr Kristen DeAnn Pryor Susan Jackson Randolph Dachia T. Scroggins JoLinda M. Vega Christina M. Arel Woodle Dane Zeller

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Cornelius

Amy E. Bannister
DiGiacomo

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John Milone
Carmella Penny-Belton
Brianna Lynn Greene
Robertson

Karen Helene Schuss
Rowinsky
Michelle A. Louis Shaw
Julie Kay Adams Tynon
Christy Lynn Chappell
Ulrey
Deborah Wise Voiles
Sarah Melissa Woodard

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Bobby George Amos Stephen Douglas Boen Heather S. Cravens Dooley Gwen Marie Jones Stephanie M. Masingale Christy R. Morris Vicki A. Yandle Rogers Lynn R. Jackson Schmidt Angela G. Smith Addis

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Gail M. Allen Kara Marie Bosler Amanda Jo Campos Edward Paul Fangman Stacy Ann Franklin Bridget Therese Johnson Dennis Leroy Powell Jill Sofija Radovich Jennifer Rich Winklbauer

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Mrs. Susan E. Wulff

Mr. Bruce Young

Mrs. Dwyla L. Young

t - Deceased

We apologize for any omissions due to printing deadlines.

If you would like to give a gift to support Avila, please use the included envelope or call 816-501-2450.





The Avila University alumni awards ceremony recognizes alumni and friends who generously give their service, creativity, and talents to their communities, their professions and Avila University.

Use the form below or visit the Web at **www.avila.edu/alumni** to nominate an alumnus for the awards listed below. You can read more about each award on the Web.

- Outstanding Alumnus Award
- · Alumni Achievement Award
- Athletic Hall of Fame

- Honorary Alumnus Award
- Recent Alumni Award
- Alumni Service Award

All nominations must be received by May 1. For additional questions or comments, please call Susan Randolph, director of alumni relations, at 816-501-3780 or e-mail susan.randolph@avila.edu.

Call for Nominations

Name of Nominee_____ Do you know an outstanding Avila alumnus? City_____State____Zip____ Have you been Phone Number (_______ Class Year _____ inspired by his or her Major _____ Degree ____ contributions to the community? Brief summary of how the nominee meets the criteria for the award: Let us honor them at this year's alumni awards ceremony during Homecoming weekend Sept. 24-26, 2010. Nominated by City_____State_____Zip____

Phone Number (_____)__



Avila Heritage

career nurse, devoted mother and proud alum, Patty Laughlin Leathers '74 has always had a special place in her heart for Avila. When Patty's husband, noted local journalist and publisher Tom Leathers, passed away in 2005, she wanted to do something special to honor him and his commitment to his profession. She was able to do that by creating an endowed scholarship in his honor at Avila designated for the student editor of *The Talon*, Avila's student-produced campus newspaper.

"Tom served a similar role during his time in college, and he knew how hard the editor has to work and the time commitment they give. I'm sure he would be proud to know that we found a way to help those who might follow in his footsteps," Patty remarked.

A retired nurse from Overland Park Regional Medical Center, Patty still stays busy and is an active volunteer for Avila. A member of the Scholarship Sponsors and a frequent attendee at Avila events, Patty takes great pride in helping her alma mater grow and prosper.

Securing Avila's Heritage

Creating an endowed scholarship to benefit future generations of Avila students is just one way you can join the Heritage Society. To find out more about Avila's Heritage Society, or if you have named Avila as a beneficiary of your estate, please contact Jessie Fuller Clark, senior director of advancement, at 816-501-3613.



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For more detailed information regarding the trip, please visit www.avila.edu/alumnitravel or e-mail advancement@avila.edu

